



September 29, 2003

A combined contribution with
-Cooperative Extension Service
-USDA Farm Service Agency
-The Oklahoma Mesonet

Cold Front Hits the State Over the Weekend

September 28 - Average daytime temperatures were up slightly from the previous week before a cold front moved in over the weekend and cooled down temperatures. Several days were windy which further dried out the soil moisture supplies. Night time temperatures were mostly cool. The Mesonet stations at Cookson and Wister, at 40 degrees, were the lowest temperatures for the week. These conditions were a welcome sight for those producers that were waiting for fields to dry out so they could resume their planting and harvesting activities. Excellent progress was made during the week for planting fall small grains. Producers continued to be busy cutting and baling hay in areas where rains have stimulated growth. Farmers had 6 days suitable for fieldwork during the week.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	6	32	61	1
Last Week	3	24	69	4
Last Year	13	22	63	2

SUBSOIL MOISTURE BY PERCENT

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
This Week	15	38	47	0
Last Week	16	37	46	1
Last Year	18	32	49	1

Small Grains: Planting activities made favorable progress during the week. At week's end, 91 percent of the wheat ground had been prepared for seeding, 4 percentage points ahead of the normal pace. Fifty-eight percent of the State's intended wheat acreage had been planted. The emergence of the small grain fields continued to advance in areas with adequate moisture. However, some reports from the Southwest and North Central districts indicated concern about this year's wheat crop due to the dry conditions and lack of moisture.

Row Crops: Cooler temperatures accompanied by dry conditions have slightly decreased most row crop conditions from the previous week. Corn producers took advantage of the ideal weather for fieldwork and harvested an additional 12 percent of the State's acreage. Sorghum and soybean harvest activities also increased and totaled 30 and 27 percent, respectively. Eighty percent of peanuts had reached maturity with 7 percent dug and 4 percent combined. Peanut maturity continued to be ahead of the normal pace. The cotton crop was rated in mostly fair to good condition with 80 percent opening bolls. Cotton harvest got underway on a limited scale with 5 percent harvested.

ROW CROPS CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending September 28, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Corn	0	2	19	31	48
Sorghum	4	30	38	28	0
Soybeans	8	18	37	32	5
Peanuts	0	10	40	45	5
Cotton	8	13	49	25	5

Hay: Alfalfa and other hay gained momentum from the previous week. The fourth and fifth cutting of alfalfa progressed to 84 and 31 percent cut, respectively. At week's end, the second cutting of other hay was at 79 percent cut. Both alfalfa and other hay ranged from mostly fair to good condition.

HAY CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending September 28, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	3	12	48	31	6
Other Hay	6	22	42	28	2

Pasture: Pasture and range conditions remained rated mostly fair to good.

Livestock: Livestock conditions were rated mostly fair to good. Livestock insect activities were rated as light to moderate. Cattle auctions reported a decrease in marketings of steers less than 800 pounds for the week. Marketings of heifers less than 800 pounds were up from last week. The price for feeder steers less than 800 pounds decreased from last week and averaged \$102.31 per cwt. The average price for feeder heifers less than 800 pounds increased from last week and averaged \$96.81 per cwt.

LIVESTOCK CONDITION BY PERCENT

Week Ending September 28, 2003

	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Livestock	0	4	27	54	15
Pasture & Range	5	18	40	33	4

Oklahoma Crop-Weather Summary
2800 N. Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105

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TIME DATED MATERIAL

OKLAHOMA CROP PROGRESS									
Week Ending September 28, 2003									
Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.	Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 - Yr. Avg.
Wheat -					Soybeans -				
Seedbed Prepared	91	87	90	87	Mature	59	52	59	64
Planted	58	38	53	37	Harvested	27	21	30	36
Emerged	29	13	26	14	Peanuts -				
Rye -					Mature	80	68	60	49
Seedbed Prepared	94	91	89	83	Dug	7	3	17	10
Planted	71	50	68	45	Combined	4	n/a	3	3
Emerged	40	21	39	21	Cotton -				
Oats -					Bolls Opening	80	68	63	79
Seedbed Prepared	71	66	79	75	Harvested	5	n/a	7	7
Planted	32	20	28	17	Alfalfa -				
Emerged	10	n/a	16	5	4 th Cutting	84	78	93	73
Corn -					5 th Cutting	31	25	44	27
Mature	93	88	99	98	Other Hay -				
Harvested	70	58	58	76	2 nd Cutting	79	76	88	66
Sorghum -									
Coloring	89	82	85	90					
Mature	60	47	74	58					
Harvested	30	23	52	33					

WEATHER FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 2003 - Temperatures ranged from 40 degrees at Cookson & Wister on Sunday, September 28th to 95 degrees at Cherokee on Friday, September 26th. Precipitation averaged 0.00 in. Panhandle, West Central, Southwest, and Southeast districts to 0.18 in. Northeast district. Soil temperatures averaged 56 degrees at Shawnee on Sunday, September 28th to 80 degrees at Tipton on Wednesday, September 24th.

MESONET TEMPERATURE AND PRECIPITATION DATA							
Week Ending September 28, 2003							
Districts	Temperature			Precipitation			
	High	Low	Average	This Week	September 1, 2003 to September 28, 2003		
					Total	Departure from Normal	Percent of Normal
	Degrees			Inches			
Panhandle	79	52	65	0.00	1.76	+ 0.00	100
West Central	84	58	71	0.00	1.37	- 1.46	48
Southwest	86	60	73	0.00	0.62	- 2.54	20
North Central	82	56	68	0.03	1.49	- 1.43	51
Central	82	58	70	0.01	2.40	- 1.44	63
South Central	82	59	70	0.01	4.38	+ 0.33	108
Northeast	79	56	67	0.18	3.13	- 1.33	70
East Central	81	58	69	0.03	3.74	- 0.88	81
Southeast	83	57	69	0.00	4.40	+ 0.13	103